TRENDS

12/12/83
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ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

Office of Information
and Public Affairs
1920 L Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20036
(202) 835-9555

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, December 8, 1983 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended December 3 totaled an estimated 16.9 billion ton-miles, 10.8 percent above the corresponding period a year ago.

Cumulative volume for the first 48 weeks of 1983 was an estimated 766.4 billion ton-miles, 3.1 percent above the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended December 3 totaled 380,839 cars, 13.4 percent over 1982, and 26.7 percent higher than the preceding holiday week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 26.9 percent in the East, 9.7 percent in the South and 8.0 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1982, 16 of the 21 commodity groups were up, led by coke, up 2,571 cars, or 66.7 percent; motor vehicles and equipment, up 6,614 cars, or 50.1 percent; and metallic ores, up 4,499 cars, or 41.5 percent. All of the 21 groups were up from the preceding holiday week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the holiday week ended November 26 totaled 37,081 cars, up 20.3 percent from the corresponding week of 1982, and 64,736 trailers and/or containers, 21.3 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 47 weeks of the year was 2,117,594 cars, 21.7 percent higher than last year, and 3,672,135 trailers and/or containers, up 19.3 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 12/3/83:

	Loadings in Week ended December 3, 1983		Change from Corresponding Week 1982			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	25,852	I	1,813	7.5	I	2,432	10.4
Other farm products	4,213	D	1,941	31.5	I	742	21.4
Metallic ores	15,343	I	4,499	41.5	I	2,303	17.7
Coal	104,743	I	8,483	8.8	I	20,777	24.7
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	10,583	I	2,017	23.5	I	3,155	42.5
Nonmetallic minerals	12,442	I	2,244	22.0	I	4,133	49.7
Grain mill products	10,447	D	1,395	11.8	I	1,892	22.1
Food and kindred products	11,504	D	1,461	11.3	I	2,743	31.3
Primary forest products	15,187	I	853	6.0	I	4,637	43.9
Lumber and wood products except furniture	6,901	I	712	11.5	I	1,732	33.5
Pulp, paper and allied products	16,058	D	385	2.3	I	2,465	18.1
Chemicals and allied products	25,398	I	3,798	17.6	I	5,383	26.9
Petroleum products	4,875	I	318	7.0	I	1,278	35.5
Stone, clay and glass products	10,818	I	1,431	15.2	I	2,283	26.7
Coke	6,427	I	2,571	66.7	I	1,941	43.3
Metals and products	9,564	I	2,373	33.0	I	2,034	27.0
Motor vehicles and equipment	19,808	I	6,614	50.1	I	5,679	40.2
Waste and scrap materials	8,753	I	2,209	33.8	I	2,123	32.0
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	9,379	I	2,353	33.5	I	2,223	31.1
All other carloads	52,308	I	8,715	20.0	I	10,249	24.4
LCL traffic	236	D	763	76.4	I	51	27.6
Total Cars Loaded	380,839	I	45,058	13.4	I	80,255	26.7

Corresponding week of 1982 335,781

	1983	1982	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (48 weeks)	17,472,889	17,321,760	I 0.9

Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):

47 weeks ended November 26	749.5	728.0	I 2.9
Week ended December 3	16.9	15.2	I 10.8
48 weeks cumulative	766.4	743.3	I 3.1

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